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TURNER

CHICAGO, Nov 14; Reuter - The director of the Central Intelligence Agency; Admiral Stansfield Turner; said toda that Soviet eavesdropping on private long-distance telephone communications in the United States presented a danger to the country.

Admiral Turner told a press conference that precautions were being taken against the eavesdropping and said the Carter Administration would make a policy statement on the subject soon.

He said unauthorized monitoring of commercial microwave transmissions was a problem all over the world and was done by terrorists; gangsters; and foreign and industrial spies.

The CIA director said the Russian monitoring ''is done from their embassy in Washington. It's a danger to us; and something we've taken precautions against.''

Among precautions under study were encoding messages; discouraging discussion of sensitive issues over the telephone; and useing cables instead of telephone lines; he said.*
MORE 1427

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TURNER 2 CHICAGO

Admiral Turner also commented on the bombardment of the U.S. embassy in Moscow with microwaves as an ''invidious'' practice intended to interfere with American activities in the Soviet capital.

But he said there was no easy way to stop it. ''You'd have to do it by persuasion rather than by force;'' he said.

On another subject; he said recent personnel cuts by his agency were planned by his precessors in the aftermath of the Vietnam build-up. He said the cuts did not signal more emphasis on technological intelligence-gathering at the expense of human intelligence activities.*
REUTER 1431

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